VERSION: **DRAFT**
RESOLUTION: **W2018-SBX**
TITLE: **Dining Hall Sustainability: Reusable Containers**
SPONSOR: **Rae Aaron, Speaker**
DATE: **January 21, 2018**

Whereas the college also spends $27,156 per year on to-go containers, using 181,200 containers in total;

Whereas all garbage produced on campus goes to the recycling center, where staff and student workers sort through the items. To-go containers have a significant impact on this process. To-go containers are disposable, but many, many containers are thrown away;

Whereas Dining Services is supportive of exploring alternative to-go solutions;

Whereas Several other colleges and universities including Dartmouth, Harvard, Oberlin, Columbia, Princeton, Tulane, and Xavier (see video) have implemented successful to-go programs;

Whereas Middlebury College, an affluent school in the Global North, uses an unsustainable amount of resources, and this resource use contributes to habitat destruction, climate change, and negatively impacts sustainable development in the Global South.

Whereas the SGA supports initiatives that increase sustainability at Middlebury, reduce waste in the dining halls, live in accordance with the values of our community, and maintain convenience for staff members and students;

Be it therefore resolved…

That the SGA recommends the following regarding to-go containers:

1. Middlebury Dining Services purchases 2,000 reusable to-go containers costing $6,995 and 2000 carabiners costing $1,735, with projected savings of $12,000 in the first year alone;
2. Current to-go containers will remain 1 week after spring break of Spring 2018 as transitioning to reusable to-go containers begins accordingly;
3. Students put down either a $5 cash, credit, or declining balance deposit on a carabiner which can be exchanged for a to-go container in any dining hall;
4. Students will be able to pick up carabiners in any Middlebury Dining Services Retail Location (Crossroads, Rehearsals, Midd Express, The Grille, Wilson Cafe);

5. Students can redeem their $5 at any time by returning a carabiner to a retail location (ex. At the end of their time at Middlebury or if they choose to discontinue the program);
6. When finished with containers, students bring them back to any dining hall to be washed and exchanged for another token—they may not reuse the dirty to-go container after putting food in it;
7. If a student loses a container or token, the student is charged another $5 deposit at a retail location to buy back into the program;
8. Education and outreach efforts by the sustainability interns and SGA Environmental Affairs Committee and SGA Publicity Committee prepare students for this switch, including awareness videos, facebook posts, posters, and campus emails.

Respectfully submitted,

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